

I-5 – Martin Way to 48th Street – Concrete Panel Replacement

Overview:

The Interstate 5 Martin Way to 48th Street Concrete Rehabilitation Project preserves a corridor vital to Washington State and its economy. Pavement on I-5 through Thurston and Pierce counties is more than 50 years old – this is more than twice its expected 20-year lifespan.

WSDOT will focus on preserving two of the most damaged and roughest sections of I-5 between Olympia and Tacoma.

Crews will replace 295 concrete panels, install more than 56,000 dowel bars that support the roadway, and grind up to $\frac{3}{4}$ inch off 25.5 existing lane miles to create a smoother driving surface.

Project Facts:

- **Contractor:** Penhall, Inc.
- **Cost:** \$8.4 million
- **Timeline:** March-September 2010
- **Work zones:** There are four quadrants that will be improved during the project, including:
 1. I-5 Northbound from Martin Way to Nisqually
 2. I-5 Southbound from Mounts Road to Martin Way
 3. I-5 Northbound from Gravelly Lake Road to 48th Street
 4. I-5 Southbound from 48th Street to Gravelly Lake Road

Primary materials:

Concrete Panels – WSDOT is replacing 295 concrete panels. The panels measure 12x15 feet and are 9-inches thick. That's enough concrete to cover nearly 11 acres of land in an inch of concrete.

Dowel Bars – The project installs more than 56,700 dowel bars. At 18-inches in length each, laid end-to-end the dowel bars would stretch more than 16.1 miles.



What work is being done:

- Saw-cutting the existing concrete and removing the panel sections.
- Repairing the roadbed to ensure a solid foundation
- Pouring, leveling and curing the new concrete – each section receives new dowel and tie bars.
- Tining the surface of the concrete panels which creates friction and improves driver safety.
- Grinding up portions of the roadway to eliminate ruts and bumps.



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Traffic impacts:

Construction requires overnight and weekend closures throughout the spring and summer.

Extensive backups and delays are expected during nine overnight weekend closures that reduce a single direction of I-5 down to one lane and require one full northbound closure of northbound I-5. All work is weather-dependent.

Motorists can expect night and weekend lane and ramp closures on I-5 in Thurston and Pierce counties.

During construction there will be a total of nine weekend closures.

- Weekend lane closures on I-5 between Martin Way and Mounts Road could create up to 15-mile backups.
- Weekend lane closures on I-5 between Gravelly Lake and 48th Street could create up to 10-mile backups.



How WSDOT will keep traffic moving on I-5:

- Working at night to avoid disrupting the morning and evening commutes.
- Providing signed detours during all ramp closures.
- Providing the latest construction schedules to south sound area media and posting them to the WSDOT Web site.

Where to find information about the project and travel restrictions:

- Online Lacey area traffic impact map featuring closure dates and up-to-the minute Web-based traveler information at www.wsdot.wa.gov/Traffic/
- Planned lane closures: www.wsdot.wa.gov/construction
- Twitter http://twitter.com/wsdot_tacoma
- E-mail alerts and updates
- 511 traveler information phone line
- Project toll-free hotline
- Local television news reports
- Local traffic radio reports

The end result:

- A new, smoother road surface and less bumps and cracks in the highway.
- This project preserves the freeway's structural integrity and extends its lifespan.
- The new panels eliminate existing holes and ruts as well as the frequent calls for pavement repairs.

How to contact us about the project:

WSDOT

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Phone and noise information: 1-877-315-0240

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